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On the whole, however, the USSR medical industry did well and gave the peoples of the USSR 40 million rubles of medical products above plans. This figure would have been even higher had all the factories attempted to improve technology, lower production costs, and economize on raw-material expenditures. Some factories, among them the Factory imeni Dzerzhinskiy, factories at Sverdlovsk and Anzhero-Sudzhensk, and the Moscow Salicylic Factory, were actually guilty of wasteful use of critical raw materials.

Many of the factories have poor administrators who have not learned the principles of smooth operation; frequently, plans are filled only by increased activity at the end of each quarter.

During 1948 the factories under the jurisdiction of Glavmedprom were equipped with modern tools and taught the fundamentals of improved production techniques.

The Board of Deputy Ministers passed several resolutions after hearing Ostapchuk's report. Their first action was to appoint Ostapchuk, Denisov, Fedchenko, Zaytsev, and Grishakov to a committee to investigate various production lags, determine reasons for these lags, and recommend corrective measures. They were urged to get to work immediately to iron out most of the production kinks by the end of the second quarter 1949. It was recommended that the committee also determine which factories are producing the so-called "easy to manufacture" goods in order to show high production levels, rather than proceeding according to the needs of the medical field.

Various raw-material-supply organizations have been told to consult factory requirement graphs and proceed accordingly.

Transportation organizations were warned to make sure that consignments leave the factories and arrive at their destination in good condition.

The Board commended the efforts of the "Krasnogvardeysk" Factory, the Factory imeni Lenin, the "EMA" Factory, and the "Akrikhin" Factory. At the same time, it issued a warning to the directors and administrators of the Klin Glassware Factory, the Tomsk Factory, and to Korotkov, chief engineer of the Administration for the Production of Glassware, who have been rather lax in increasing production.

The Board also passed on a resolution which set forth basic methods for increasing production in 1949 and fulfilling 1949 production quotas.

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